

our children from using these products. Approximately 90 percent of all adult smokers began their habit while in their teens, or earlier, and two-thirds become regular, daily smokers before they reach the age of 19. According to the American Medical Association, each day, about 4,000 children try smoking a cigarette for the first time and another 1,000 become new, regular, daily smokers. This means that one-third of these children will die prematurely.

Despite their claims to the contrary, the tobacco companies continue to market their products aggressively toward children. This bill will give FDA the authority to impose marketing restrictions, labeling requirements, as well as to ban candy flavored tobacco products in order to prevent tobacco companies from addicting children to tobacco.

I am also pleased that the bill before us includes language that maintains the same role of the Appropriations Committee with regard to the fees in this bill that the Committee has with regard to other FDA user fees.

This bill has strong bipartisan support, and is endorsed by key groups including the American Cancer Society, the American Medical Association, the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, and Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

OPTIONAL ELECTRONIC PAY STUBS FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6073, "To provide that Federal employees receiving their pay by electronic funds transfer shall be given the option of receiving their pay stubs electronically." First, I would like to thank my colleague, VIRGINIA FOXX of North Carolina, for introducing this important legislation. This bill will allow all Federal employees receiving their pay by electronic funds transfer to receive their pay stubs electronically. This will bring much needed reform to a system that has become less transparent due to the advent of electronic, online banking. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this act.

H.R. 6073 is important because of the need to create a streamlined, direct pay system that is at the same time transparent with clear authentication, allowing the over 1 million Federal employees to be able to back up their electronic funds with electronic pay stubs. These pay stubs will provide a necessary, substantive back-up to ensure that the many employees using electronic funds transfer have the same access to a transparent financial record.

H.R. 6073, "To provide that Federal employees receiving their pay by electronic funds transfer shall be given the option of receiving their pay stubs electronically," is a fair, equitable step that will bring the Federal Government toward a clearer, more direct standard for all Federal employees using electronic funds transfer.

Upon enactment of the act, the Office of Personnel Management, OPM, would be re-

quired to provide Federal employees that receive their pay through electronic transfer with the option of also receiving their pay stubs electronically. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that implementation of this act will have no effect on the budget, and this act does not contain any intergovernmental or private sector mandates, and hence does not apply to local or State governments.

This bill will benefit the many thousands of Federal employees receiving their pay by electronic funds transfer by giving them the option to receive their pay stubs electronically. This option will provide greater authentication and transparency, without costing taxpayers, and without affecting private businesses, and State and local government.

This bipartisan bill will benefit the many Federal Government employees in Houston, Texas, and the Nation as a whole, while coming at no cost to the taxpayers of Texas' 18th. This simple reform should create an improved electronic pay system, benefiting countless Government employees.

IN HONOR OF ADRIAN MALDONADO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Adrian Maldonado on the occasion of his retirement as Director of the Office of Procurement and Diversity in Cuyahoga County. His vision, leadership and commitment to his work has had a profound impact on developing Cuyahoga County and on the Greater Cleveland community.

Adrian Maldonado began his career in public service twenty-seven years ago, when he was hired as a personnel interviewer at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio. Four years later, in 1985, he began working for the State of Ohio in the Department of Administrative Services as a minority business specialist. For fourteen years, he worked tirelessly with minority business entrepreneurs in my district, helping them secure contracts under Ohio's HB584 Minority Set-Aside program after almost eleven years, he is retiring from his position as the Director of Diversity and Procurement in Cuyahoga County.

Mr. Maldonado's leadership and vision as Director of the Office of Procurement and Diversity for Cuyahoga County changed the county immensely. He and his staff worked diligently to improve the county's purchasing operating system and its purchasing and operating procedures, leading the county to be recognized by Purchasing Magazine as one of country's top Big 20 Purchasers. Under his leadership, the Office of Procurement and Diversity created a small business enterprise program which assists small businesses in procuring county contracts. Since implementing this program, Cuyahoga County has consistently met or exceeded the 30% subcontracting goal for all county contracts.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Adrian Maldonado, and in recognition of his leadership, vision and dedication to his work and to the community.

TRIBUTE TO STEVEN MICHAEL WORLEY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the career and accomplishments of Steven Michael Worley of Cabin Creek, West Virginia.

For the more than 33 years, Michael Worley has been a leader of several personal and professional development opportunities across many states, including the great state of West Virginia. A graduate of West Virginia Institute of Technology in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering, Michael began his career with the Relocations Branch of Engineering Division, where he worked on a variety of major reservoir and local protection projects in relocating public facilities from the construction work areas. Over the next 20 years, Michael's professional career consisted of working with Planning Division and serving as project manager for a variety of inland navigation, riverfront park, and nonstructural flood protection projects. Since 2001, Mike has served as the Chief of Planning Branch.

For all of his service, Michael has received numerous awards. He was selected as Ohio River Division Civilian of the Year in 1993 as well as Corps-wide Civilian of the Year in 1993. He was also honored with the J.W. Morris medallion. Michael received the National Performance Review, awarded to the Section 202 Non-structural Flood Proofing Team, from Vice President Al Gore. In 2004, he was named Special Emphasis Program Supervisor of the Year. These are just a few of the mentionable awards Michael has received for all his leadership and hard work.

He and his wife, Katie, have been married since 1975, and have raised two children, Erin Worley Haughey (married to Andy Haughey) and Ryan Worley. Katie is the Office Manager for Huntington Physical Therapy in Charleston. Erin Worley and her husband are owner/operators of four McDonald's franchises while Ryan Worley is owner of Epicenter Art Studio.

Michael represents the true calling of public service. It is an honor to work with such a distinguished citizen who has contributed so much to our great state. I'm proud to call Michael Worley a friend and a fellow West Virginian. I wish him all best in his retirement.

IN HONOR OF MS. MARGI PRUITT CEO OF THE DELMARVA PENIN- SULA CHAPTER OF THE AMER- ICAN RED CROSS

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Ms. Margi Pruitt for her dedication and service to the American Red Cross. She will retire from her post as CEO of the Delmarva Peninsula Chapter of the American Red Cross in October after thirty five years of excellent work helping Americans in need.

Margi began working for the Delaware Chapter of the American Red Cross in 1973,